

# COLORADO

## Cattle, Sheep and Goat Inventory

### SPECIAL PRESS RELEASE



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

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#### CATTLE INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2010

##### COLORADO

The January 1, 2010 inventory of all cattle and calves in Colorado totaled 2.60 million head, unchanged from the January 1, 2009 inventory. Beef cows, at 714,000 head, were down 6,000 head from the previous year. Milk cows decreased 14,000 head from last year to 116,000 head. Colorado's 2009 calf crop was down 1 percent from 2008 to 770,000.

Other class estimates as of January 1, 2010 and percent changes from 2009 were as follows: Beef replacement heifers 500 pounds and over did not change from last year's 120,000 head; milk replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, were up 17 percent to 70,000 head; other heifers 500 pounds and over, down 6 percent to 500,000; steers 500 pounds and over, up 12 percent to 860,000; bulls 500 pounds and over, down 10 percent at 45,000; and calves under 500 pounds, down 20 percent to 175,000 head. The total inventory included 1,020,000 head of cattle and calves on feed, the same as last year.

##### UNITED STATES

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2010, totaled 93.7 million head, 1 percent below the 94.5 million on January 1, 2009. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.5 million, were down 1 percent from the 41.0 million on January 1, 2009. Beef cows, at 31.4 million, were down 1 percent from January 1, 2009. Milk cows, at 9.1 million, were down 3 percent from January 1, 2009. Other class estimates on January 1, 2010, and the change from January 1, 2009, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.7 million, up slightly. Beef replacement heifers, 5.4 million, down 2 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.5 million, up 2 percent. Other heifers, 9.7 million, up 1 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.4 million, down 2 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.2 million, up slightly. Calves under 500 pounds, 14.9 million, up slightly. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.6 million, down 2 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 27.5 million, down slightly. The 2009 calf crop was estimated at 35.8 million head, down 1 percent from 2008. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 26.0 million, down 1 percent from 2008.

#### SHEEP & LAMB INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2010

##### COLORADO

The January 1, 2010 inventory of all sheep and lambs in Colorado totaled 375,000 head, down 9 percent from the 410,000 on hand as of January 1, 2009. The number of breeding sheep and lambs decreased by 7 percent from last year to 190,000 head while market sheep and lambs decreased by 10 percent to 185,000 head. The number of replacement lambs decreased from 32,000 head in 2009 to 30,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older decreased 7 percent from last year to 155,000 head. The number of rams one year old and older decreased from 6,000 head to 5,000 head. Of the 185,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 1,000 head were market sheep and 184,000 head were market lambs. There were 2,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, down 1,000 from a year earlier; 7,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, down 3,000 from the previous year; 17,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 25,000 last year; and 158,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with 165,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2009. The 2009 lamb crop, at 180,000 head, was 14 percent below the 2008 lamb crop.

Wool production in Colorado during 2009 totaled 2.2 million pounds, down from 2.6 million pounds produced in 2008. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 300,000 head, was down 21 percent from 380,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2009 totaled \$1.80 million, down 38 percent from a year earlier as producers received \$0.82 per pound of wool sold compared with \$1.12 per pound the previous year.

**Over Please**

**UNITED STATES**

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2010, totaled 5.63 million head, down 2 percent from 2009. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010, down 1 percent from 4.25 million head on January 1, 2009. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.34 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2010, totaled 1.44 million head, down 4 percent from January 1, 2009. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-five percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 19 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 38 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings. The 2009 lamb crop of 3.69 million head, was down 1 percent from 2008. The 2009 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2009, up 3 percent from 2008.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2009 was 30.9 million pounds, down 6 percent from 2008. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.20 million head, down 5 percent from 2008. The average price paid for wool sold in 2009 was \$0.79 per pound for a total value of 24.4 million dollars, down 25 percent from 32.5 million dollars in 2008.

**GOAT INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2010**

**COLORADO**

Meat and all other goats accounted for 38,000 head compared with 34,000 on January 1, 2009 and milk goats totaled 8,400 head, up from 8,300 head a year ago. Angora and all goat inventory numbers were not published due to confidentiality.

**UNITED STATES**

**Total Goat and Kid Inventory Up 3 Percent**

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2010, totaled 3.04 million head, down 1 percent from 2009. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.53 million head down 1 percent from 2009. All market goats and kids totaled 518,000 head, down 2 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2010 meat and all other goats totaled 2.54 million head, down slightly from 2009. Milk goat inventory increased 6 percent to 355,000 head, while angora goats were down 19 percent, totaling 150,000 head. The 2009 kid crop totaled 1.94 million head for all goats, down 1 percent from 2008.

Mohair production in the United States during 2009 was 1.01 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 160,500 head. Average weight per clip was 6.3 pounds. Mohair price was \$2.66 per pound with a value of 2.69 million dollars.